

Laura Langley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2013 11:25 AM
To: Laura Langley
Subject: Title IV Funds Return and Disability

Laura,

I am not entirely sure you can help me with this problem, but I thought I would give it a shot. I had to withdraw from school in the middle of the fall quarter because I became pregnant. I took a medical hardship withdrawal, and I also have a documented disability (ADD) with the disAbilities office. I was told after my withdrawal that I would have to pay back part of my Title IV financial aid funds, including student loan funds and part of my State Need Grant funds. After doing some research, I found out that if a person has completed more than 50% of the quarter, they do not have to pay back their State Need grants, and I also discovered that because I took a medical hardship withdrawal, Western had the option of extending the tuition refund deadline, but they did not. According to the Financial aid office, I only completed 45% of the quarter, but they are calculating that by physical days of the quarter and not by quarter hours completed. I was enrolled in the Extended Education TESOL program, and I only had class once per week, but the classes were between 4 and 5 hours long. The physical days does not take into account holidays that we did not have class either. I read the WAC (250-20-051) on this matter, and it does state that the repayment calculation is based on the portion of the term not completed or the percent of scheduled clock hours not completed.

They billed almost \$3000 to my student account and have placed a registration hold on my account until it is paid. It was my understanding that as long as my account is not considered "past due" that I could register for classes. I am not having payments taken directly out of my paycheck, and I don't make a whole lot of money as it is. I feel that the Financial Aid, Registrar's and Student Business office have the ability to help me with this, but they are choosing not to. I currently pay \$226 per month to repay the Title IV funds and it really is not something I can afford. I am currently 7 months pregnant and I have a 3 year old at home. My husband is still a student at Bellingham Technical college and we have absolutely no financial help from anyone besides ourselves. I feel that this repayment places an undue hardship on my family and I am hoping that you can help me with this or can direct me to someone who can.

Thank you,

5/21/13
- 1st call clara +
email her as well
+ ask her staff
to look into it
really appreciate it

- 1st call [REDACTED] call
need more info,
I will ask Director
of Fin Aid, OK email
to share w/
clara

5/21/13
+ 1st call clara X2422